

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A lock₁ comprising: a lock mechanism arranged to receive and lock to an associated keep (7), characterised in that the lock comprises an outer cover (1) which extends over both the lock mechanism and the keep (7) when the keep is locked to the lock and in that the cover prevents access to both the lock mechanism and the keep.
2. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in Claim of claim 1, wherein those components of the lock mechanism which retain the keep (7) in a locked position within the lock are located within the lock₁ and the lock cover (1) is profiled such that a cutting/grinding disk extending in excess of approximately 20 mm from the body of a cutter would be required to sever those components and release the keep
3. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in Claim of claim 1 or 2, wherein the cover (1) comprises dissimilar materials selected to resist cutting by a cutting disk.
4. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in Claim of claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the lock cover comprises ceramic inserts attached thereto.
5. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in any preceding of claim 1, wherein the lock cover comprises hardened steel inserts attached thereto.
6. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in any preceding of claim 1, wherein the lock cover (1) is cast and hardened on at least one surface thereof.
7. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in any preceding of claim 1, wherein the cover (1) protects the lock from the weather.
8. (Currently Amended) A The lock as claimed in any preceding of claim 1, wherein the lock mechanism comprises electronic circuitry (10) and mechanical elements (15) controlled by the electronic circuitry.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in Claim 8~~ of claim 8, wherein the circuitry comprises a keypad (22) aligned with an aperture in the cover permitting the lock to be operated when a correct code is entered on the keypad.
10. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in Claim~~ of claim 8 or 9, wherein the circuitry (10) comprises a receiver (6) for receiving a signal externally of the cover and permits operation of the lock when an authorisation signal is received.
11. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in any one of Claims of claim 8, 9 or 10~~, wherein a mechanical linkage (2) extends through the cover (1) of the lock such that the linkage can be activated by a user, wherein the lock is arranged such that on receipt of a correct code or signal, the electronic circuit (10) enables the lock to be released by the user operating the mechanical linkage (2) such that the energy required to lock or release the lock is supplied by the user.
12. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in Claim~~ of claim 11, wherein the circuitry (10) comprises a wake up mode which is activated by the user operating the mechanical linkage (2).
13. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in Claim~~ of claim 11, wherein the mechanical linkage (2) comprises a cylinder lock (5) arranged to release the lock manually when operated by the correct key.
14. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in any one of Claims of claim 8 to 12~~, wherein the electronic circuitry (10) controls an actuator (23) which releases the mechanical mechanism.
15. (Currently Amended) A ~~The lock as claimed in Claim 15~~ 14, wherein the actuator is a piezoelectric actuator.
16. (Cancelled).

17. (New) The lock of claim 9, wherein the circuitry comprises a receiver for receiving a signal externally of the cover and permits operation of the lock when an authorisation signal is received.

18. (New) The lock of claim 9, wherein a mechanical linkage extends through the cover of the lock such that the linkage can be activated by a user, wherein the lock is arranged such that on receipt of a correct code or signal, the electronic circuit enables the lock to be released by the user operating the mechanical linkage such that the energy required to lock or release the lock is supplied by the user.

19. (New) The lock of claim 10, wherein a mechanical linkage extends through the cover of the lock such that the linkage can be activated by a user, wherein the lock is arranged such that on receipt of a correct code or signal, the electronic circuit enables the lock to be released by the user operating the mechanical linkage such that the energy required to lock or release the lock is supplied by the user.

20. (New) The lock of claim 11, wherein the circuitry comprises a wake up mode which is activated by the user operating the mechanical linkage.